



## Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

### New Information is in Blue Text

<b>Event Name</b>	20-0003 COVID-19 2020
<b>Date</b>	October 18, 2021
<b>Time</b>	0800
<b>Operational Period</b>	October 15, 2021 to October 18, 2021
<b>Report Number</b>	491

Region	
<b>Regions Affected</b>	1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6
<b>DDCs Active</b>	DDCs 1, 3, 4B, 6, 8, 9A, 9B, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16A, 16B, 16C, 16D, 17, 18A, 18B, 19, 20, 21 & 24

**Current Situation:** The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) is currently reporting a total of 3,466,998 cases of COVID-19 in the State of Texas which includes an estimated 149,149 active cases. An estimated 3,931,931 individuals have recovered from the virus and 67,812 confirmed COVID-19 related fatalities. Across Texas, a total of 34,226,701 COVID-19 molecular tests have been completed.

DSHS is also reporting that Texas has received and distributed a total of 27,513,735 doses of COVID-19 vaccine. Of that total, 17,551,982 people have been administered at least one dose in 254 Texas Counties.

Visit the DSHS COVID-19 Vaccine Information website:

<https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/coronavirus/immunize/vaccine.aspx>

Visit the Testing Sites Map online for testing locations near you.

<https://covidtest.tdem.texas.gov/>

View the Governor's Executive Orders issued:

<https://lrl.texas.gov/legLeaders/governors/displayDocs.cfm?govdoctypeID=5&governorID=45>

The Governor's Report to Open Texas.

<https://open.texas.gov/uploads/files/organization/opentexas/OpenTexas-Report.pdf>

Texas Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information Page. <https://www.texas.gov/covid19/>

Texas Health and Human Services Mental Health and Substance Use Resources.

<https://hhs.texas.gov/services/mental-health-substance-use/mental-health-substance-use>

## use-resources

One Star Foundation, Texas COVID Relief Fund. <http://onestarfoundation.org/txcovidfund/>

Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Help for Texans.

<https://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/texans.htm>

Special WIC Food Updates. <https://texaswic.org/about-wic/special-wic-food-updates>

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. <https://www.cms.gov/>

Texans in need can apply for benefits, including Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid. <https://www.YourTexasBenefits.com>

State-sponsored infusion centers are currently operating in the following communities:

- |                          |                      |                        |
|--------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| • Amarillo (TDEM)        | • Fort Worth (DSHS)  | • Nash (TDEM)          |
| • Austin (DSHS)          | • Harlingen (TDEM)   | • Odessa (TDEM)        |
| • Beaumont (TDEM)        | • Houston (DSHS)     | • San Antonio (DSHS)   |
| • Burnet (TDEM)          | • Laredo (DSHS)      | • Seguin (TDEM)        |
| • College Station (TDEM) | • Livingston (TDEM)  | • Tyler (TDEM)         |
| • Corpus Christi (DSHS)  | • Lubbock (TDEM)     | • The Woodlands (DSHS) |
| • Edinburg (TDEM)        | • McKinney (TDEM)    | • Victoria (TDEM)      |
|                          | • Nacogdoches (TDEM) | • Waco (TDEM)          |

These state-sponsored infusion centers are in addition to the infusion treatment centers provided by more than 200 private health providers across the state.

On October 14, Governor Abbott and the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) announced that the Texas Rent Relief Program has distributed more than \$1 billion in rental and utility assistance to more than 174,000 Texas households, with another \$52 million already committed to being paid. Texas is the first state to distribute \$1 billion in rent relief funds and has more than \$900 million remaining. Since the program launched in mid-February, Texas has served more households and provided more relief funds than any other state, while reaching 95% of its counties.

Texans can apply for the program by calling 1-833-9TX-RENT (1-833-989-7368) or submitting it online at [TexasRentRelief.com](http://TexasRentRelief.com). The call center is open Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. To qualify, households must be at or below 80% of the area median income as well as meet other criteria. Landlords are encouraged to apply on behalf of tenants, who must co-sign the application.

By the numbers:

- More than \$1 billion has been paid to more than 174,000 households.
- The program is reaching all corners of Texas, providing assistance to households in 241 out of 254 Texas counties – that's a 95% reach of the vast Texas territory.
- More than 82% of the households served are either extremely low or low income, falling at or below 50% of their area median income.
- The program is prioritizing people at risk of eviction – more than 15,000 applicants have had their evictions stopped and removed from their credit records and have received more than \$126 million in assistance.

- TDHCA provides a public dashboard to report on the program's performance at [TexasRentRelief.com](https://www.texasrentrelief.com).

On October 11, Governor Abbott issued an executive order stating that no entity in Texas can compel receipt of a COVID-19 vaccination by any individual, including an employee or consumer, who objects to such vaccination for any reason of personal conscience, based on a religious belief, or for medical reasons, including prior recovery from COVID-19. Governor Abbott also sent a message to the Chief Clerk of the House and Secretary of the Senate adding this issue as an item to the Third Special Session agenda. The executive order will be rescinded upon the passage of such legislation.

On September 30, Governor Abbott announced that the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) is providing almost \$294 million in emergency SNAP food benefits for the month of October as the state continues its response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The allotments are expected to help more than 1.4 million Texas households.

On September 28, Governor Abbott issued a proclamation renewing the declaration stating COVID-19 poses an imminent threat of disaster for all counties in Texas.

On September 3, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC is providing approximately \$286 million in emergency SNAP food benefits for the month of September as the state continues its response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On August 29, Governor Abbott issued a proclamation renewing the declaration stating COVID-19 poses an imminent threat of disaster for all counties in Texas.

On August 26, Governor Abbott announced that DSHS will be deploying an additional 2,500 medical staff to support health care facilities in Texas, including hospitals and nursing homes. This will bring the total number of medical personnel deployed across the state to 8,100. In addition, DSHS is providing medical equipment requested by Texas medical facilities including ventilators, oxygen concentrators, heart monitors, IV pumps, feeding pumps, and hospital beds.

On August 25, Governor Abbott issued an [Executive Order](#) maintaining the current policy prohibiting the mandating of any COVID-19 vaccinations by any government entity in the State of Texas. Additionally, the Governor added to the Special Session agenda the issue of whether any state or local governmental entities in Texas can mandate that an individual receive a COVID-19 vaccine and, if so, what exemptions should apply to such mandate. Read the Governor's [Executive Order](#). Read the Governor's [message to the Legislature](#).

On August 24, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC has received approval from the USDA for a third round of federal Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) food benefits for families with children who have temporarily lost access to free or reduced-price school meals due to COVID-19.

On August 23, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the first COVID-19 vaccine. The vaccine has been known as the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine and will now be marketed as Comirnaty (koe-mir'-na-tee), for the prevention of COVID-19 disease

in individuals 16 years of age and older. The vaccine also continues to be available under emergency use authorization (EUA), including for individuals 12 through 15 years of age and for the administration of a third dose in certain immunocompromised individuals.

On August 19, Governor Abbott announced that DSHS and TDEM will deploy additional medical personnel and launch more COVID-19 antibody infusion centers across the state over the next week. Currently, there are more than 140 providers that are providing antibody treatments at hospitals and clinics across the state.

On August 18, Governor Abbott announced additional federal coronavirus relief assistance payments from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) will begin this week for populations under 50,000. For more information or to apply for CLFRF, please visit <https://tdem.texas.gov/clfrf/>.

On August 13, Governor Abbott announced that DSHS and TDEM are launching nine COVID-19 antibody infusion centers throughout the state.

On August 11, Governor Abbott announced that DSHS has arranged for the deployment of more than 2,500 medical personnel to help hospitals care for the increasing number of COVID-19 patients across Texas. This operation follows the Governor's directive earlier this week that DSHS utilize staffing agencies to provide out-of-state medical personnel to Texas health care facilities to mitigate the surge of COVID-19 cases in Texas. This first deployment of personnel will be fully funded by the state through September 30. Texans can visit [covidvaccine.texas.gov](https://covidvaccine.texas.gov) to find a COVID-19 vaccine provider near them.

On August 9, Governor Abbott announced a series of actions the State of Texas is taking to mitigate the recent rise in COVID-19 cases in Texas. DSHS will be utilizing staffing agencies to provide medical personnel from out-of-state to Texas health care facilities to assist in COVID-19 operations. The Governor has also sent a letter to the Texas Hospital Association asking hospitals to voluntarily postpone elective medical procedures, for which a delay will not result in loss of life or the deterioration of a patient's condition, in order to increase hospital capacity for COVID-19 patients.

On August 9, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC is providing approximately \$267 million in emergency SNAP food benefits for the month of August as the state continues its response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On July 30, Governor Abbott issued a proclamation renewing the declaration stating the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) poses an imminent threat of disaster for all counties in Texas.

On July 29, Governor Abbott issued an Executive Order (GA-38) combining several existing COVID-19 executive orders to promote statewide uniformity and certainty in the state's COVID-19 response.

On July 28, Governor Abbott issued an Executive Order restricting ground transportation of migrants who pose a risk of carrying COVID-19 into Texas communities. The Executive Order also directed the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) to stop any vehicle upon reasonable suspicion of such violation and reroute such vehicles back to its point of origin

or a port of entry. DPS also has the authority to impound a vehicle that violates the Executive Order.

On July 14, Governor Abbott announced the Texas HHSC is receiving more than \$210 million in federal emergency grants from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration for mental health and substance use disorder services to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information about resources available to Texans who are struggling with mental health issues and substance use, visit the [Mental Health and Substance Use webpage](#).

On July 6, Governor Abbott announced that the HHSC is providing approximately \$262 million in emergency SNAP food benefits for the month of July as the state continues its response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On July 1, Governor Abbott issued a proclamation renewing the declaration stating COVID-19 poses an imminent threat of disaster for all counties in Texas.

On June 4, Governor Abbott issued a proclamation renewing the declaration stating COVID-19 poses an imminent threat of disaster for all counties in Texas.

On June 2, Governor Abbott announced that the HHSC is providing approximately \$208 million in emergency SNAP food benefits for the month of June as the state continues its response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On June 1, Governor Abbott and the HHSC announced a temporary increase in food benefits for families participating in the Texas Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) through September 2021. This temporary increase specifically covers the purchase of fruits and vegetables.

On May 20, Governor Abbott announced that the HHSC has received approval from the USDA for a second round of federal P-EBT food benefits for families with children who have temporarily lost access to free or reduced-price school meals due to COVID-19 during the 2020-2021 school year.

On May 18, Governor Abbott issued an Executive Order prohibiting governmental entities in Texas — including counties, cities, school districts, public health authorities, or government officials — from requiring or mandating mask wearing.

On May 17, Governor Abbott informed the U.S. Department of Labor that Texas will opt out of further federal unemployment compensation related to the COVID-19 pandemic, effective June 26, 2021.

On May 14, Governor Abbott issued a statement after it was announced that over 20 million COVID-19 vaccine doses have been administered in the state of Texas.

On May 12, DSHS has notified vaccine providers that they should begin to administer the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine to adolescents from 12 to 15 years old, in line with federal guidance.

On May 6, Governor Abbott, TDEM, and TMD announced the launch of the State Mobile Vaccination Team Call Center. Texas businesses or civic organizations can call 844-90-TEXAS and select Option 3 to schedule a visit from a state mobile vaccine team to vaccinate employees, visitors, or members. Homebound Texans are also encouraged to call the hotline and select Option 1 to request a state mobile vaccination team to visit their home.

On May 5, Governor Abbott renewed the COVID-19 Disaster Declaration for May 2021.

On May 4, Governor Abbott announced that the HHSC is providing approximately \$246 million in emergency SNAP food benefits for the month of May as the state continues its response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On April 20 Governor Abbott announced that TDEM, DSHS, and TMD have announced 24 counties participating in the eighth week of the Save Our Seniors COVID-19 vaccine initiative.

On April 14, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM, DSHS, and TMD have announced 35 counties participating in the seventh week of the Save Our Seniors COVID-19 vaccine initiative.

On April 13, Governor Abbott issued a statement following the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and FDA recommendation to pause administration of the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine.

On April 7, Governor Abbott announced that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has partially approved a request to extend operations for the Federally Supported Community Vaccination Centers in Arlington, Dallas, and Houston through May 18.

On April 6, Governor Abbott and the HHSC provided approximately \$254 million in emergency SNAP food benefits for the month of April as the state continues its response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On April 6, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM, DSHS, and TMD have announced 46 counties participating in the sixth week of the Save Our Seniors COVID-19 vaccine initiative. To date, 107 counties have participated in the program.

On April 6, Governor Abbott issued an Executive Order prohibiting state agencies or political subdivisions in Texas from creating a "vaccine passport" requirement, or otherwise conditioning receipt of services on an individual's COVID-19 vaccination status. The order also prohibits organizations receiving public funds from requiring consumers to provide documentation of vaccine status to receive any service or enter any place.

On March 30, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM, DSHS, and Texas Military Department (TMD) have announced 35 counties participating in the fifth week of the Save Our Seniors COVID-19 vaccine initiative. The Governor announced the Save Our Seniors program in Corpus Christi lastmonth to provide vaccines to seniors throughout the state. To date, 98 counties have participated in the program.



On March 30, Governor Abbott and TDEM announced the creation of a COVID-19 Rapid Testing Program for Texas youth summer camps. Through this program, TDEM will provide participating summer camps with COVID-19 rapid antigen tests that will be administered to staff and campers who volunteer to participate.

On March 26, Governor Abbott and TDEM have requested an extension of the Federally Supported Community Vaccination Centers in Arlington, Dallas, and Houston. Originally launched in February, these federal pilot sites are based at E Sports Stadium, Fair Park, and NRG Stadium, and are part of a joint effort to support vaccination efforts in underserved areas. The sites are operated by FEMA in partnership with the state of Texas through TDEM and local officials. TDEM submitted the request on March 22 for an extension of supplies, personnel, and vaccine. A request was also made on March 19 to establish a similar community vaccination site at the Alamodome in San Antonio. FEMA denied this request.

On March 26, Governor Abbott announced that ten million COVID-19 vaccines have been administered to Texans across the state, with over 30% of eligible Texans having received a vaccine. This significant milestone is a result of dedicated work by TDEM, DSHS, TMD, and the healthcare workers and volunteers across the state who have helped administer these vaccines.

On March 25, Governor Abbott announced a new outreach partnership between the HHSC and partners to enhance the state's Save Our Seniors program. The partnership includes the Texas Employee Retirement System, the Texas Teachers Retirement System, AARP, and Medicare health plans. Participating Medicare health plans include UnitedHealthcare, Humana, and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas.

On March 23, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM, DSHS, and TMD have confirmed 25 participating counties for the fourth week of the Save Our Seniors initiative.

On March 23, DSHS announced that they have directed vaccine providers to prioritize people 80 years old or older when scheduling appointments and accommodate anyone in that age group who presents for vaccination, whether they have an appointment, by immediately moving them to the front of the line.

On March 16, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM, DSHS, and TMD have confirmed 28 participating counties for the third week of the Save Our Seniors initiative.

On March 9, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM, DSHS, and TMD have announced 34 counties participating in the second week of the Save Our Seniors COVID-19 vaccine initiative.

On March 4, Governor Abbott, and the Texas Education Agency (TEA) announced that the State of Texas will provide a "hold harmless" to Texas school systems for the rest of the 2020-2021 academic school year only. Districts will be funded on attendance in line with projections made prior to the public health crisis. This will ensure that school systems in Texas can retain their teachers for the 2020-21 school year for whom they originally budgeted. This final semester of hold harmless means districts have been held harmless for three consecutive semesters — Spring Semester of the 2019-20 academic year and

the entirety of the 2020-21 academic year.

On March 2, Governor Abbott issued an Executive Order (GA-34) lifting the mask mandate in Texas and increasing capacity of all businesses and facilities in the state to 100 percent.

On March 1, TDEM, DSHS, and TEEEX announced 26 participating counties for the first week of the Save Our Seniors initiative.

On February 26, Governor Abbott and HHSC will provide approximately \$229 million in emergency SNAP food benefits for the month of March as the state continues its response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On February 25, Governor Abbott announced the statewide Save Our Seniors initiative to vaccinate homebound seniors across Texas.

On February 11, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM, in partnership with TMD, will deploy State Mobile Vaccination Teams (SMVT).

On February 10, Governor Abbott announced that FEMA is establishing mass community vaccination sites in the DFW Metroplex and Houston.

On February 9, Governor Abbott announced that the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) has launched the Texas Rent Relief Program — the first statewide rent and utility assistance program for qualifying households throughout Texas. This program has been created to administer the more than \$1 billion allocated to Texas through the latest federal COVID-19 stimulus bill. TDHCA will begin accepting applications for the program on Monday, February 15, but Texans can visit [TexasRentRelief.com](https://www.texasrentrelief.com) to learn more about qualifications, required documents, and the application process.

On February 4, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM, in partnership with TMD, is deploying SMVTs to five additional counties.

On February 4, Governor Abbott announced the extension of the COVID-19 Disaster Declaration.

On February 2, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC will provide approximately \$300 million in emergency SNAP food benefits for the month of February.

On January 28, Governor Abbott and TEA launched an online application for the Supplementary Special Education Services (SSES) program, which allows eligible families of children with significant cognitive disabilities and complex educational needs to apply for a \$1,500 online account to be used in the SSES marketplace.

On January 27, Governor Abbott announced that the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) has deployed 80 military medical personnel to assist in the COVID-19 response in Abilene, Lufkin, and Eagle Pass.

On January 27, Governor Abbott and TDEM announced the creation of the State Mobile Vaccine Pilot Program to ramp up COVID-19 vaccination efforts in underserved areas.



On January 25, Governor Abbott announced that the TDEM, in partnership with the City of Lubbock, Lubbock County, Covenant Health System, and UMC Health System, has established an Alternate Care Site (ACS) in Lubbock to expand hospital capacity in the region.

On January 25, Governor Abbott also announced that TDEM has expanded the COVID-19 therapeutic infusion center in Austin. With added support provided by TDEM, including 24 additional infusion chairs, staff, and medical equipment, the infusion center will be able to increase capacity to treat a greater number of COVID-19 patients each day.

On January 22, Governor Abbott and TDEM announced the expansion of the COVID-19 Rapid Testing Program for front line workers at Texas small businesses by dedicating 1 million BinaxNow Rapid Tests to the program.

On January 22, Governor Abbott announced that DSHS and TDEM have surged medical personnel, equipment, testing supplies, and personal protective equipment (PPE) to Laredo to help combat COVID-19 and support hospitals in the region.

On January 19, Governor Abbott held a roundtable discussion alongside healthcare professionals at Houston Methodist Hospital to highlight his legislative priorities to ensure a healthier future for the state of Texas.

On January 14, Governor Abbott and DSHS announced that that State of Texas has administered more than 1 million doses of the COVID-19 vaccine—making Texas the national leader in vaccinations.

On January 12, 2021, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM, in partnership with Travis County, the City of Austin, and the Capital Area Trauma Regional Advisory Council, has established an ACS in Austin to expand hospital capacity in the region.

On January 11, 2021, Governor Abbott held a press conference in Arlington where he provided an update on Texas' COVID-19 vaccine distribution efforts.

On January 9, 2021, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM has established two new COVID-19 therapeutic infusion centers in Fort Worth and Irving.

On January 8, 2021, Governor Abbott announced that the TDEM has launched a therapeutic infusion center in Laredo to treat outpatient cases of COVID-19.

On January 4, 2021, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM has established a COVID-19 therapeutic infusion center in Austin to treat outpatient cases of COVID-19.

On December 30, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM secured an extension of four Community Based Testing Sites (CBTS) in Houston and Harris County through January 31, 2021.

On December 28, 2020, Governor Abbott and DSHS are alerting nursing facilities to the availability of monoclonal antibody therapies that can be used to treat residents who have been diagnosed with COVID-19.

On December 22, 2020, Governor Abbott received the COVID-19 vaccine at Ascension-Seton Medical Center in Austin.

On December 18, 2020, Governor Abbott held a call with hospital CEOs and representatives across Texas to discuss the importance of COVID-19 therapeutic antibody treatments in the state's fight against COVID-19.

On December 17, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM has established a COVID-19 therapeutic infusion center in Harlingen to treat outpatient cases of COVID-19.

On December 14, 2020, Governor Abbott visited the White House where he attended a briefing on Operation Warp Speed with Vice President Mike Pence and other state and federal leaders.

On December 11, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that the State of Texas will participate in the Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program, a federal program to vaccinate residents and staff of long-term care facilities against COVID-19.

On December 7, 2020, Governor Abbott and TDEM launched a COVID-19 Rapid Testing Pilot Program for front line workers at Texas small businesses.

On December 3, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC will provide approximately \$204 million in emergency SNAP food benefits for the month of December as the state continues to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On December 2, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that the CDC has made an initial allotment of over 1.4 million doses of the COVID-19 vaccines to the State of Texas for the month of December.

On November 24, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM has established a bamlanivimab infusion wing at the state-run ACS in El Paso to treat outpatient cases of COVID-19.

On November 23, 2020, Governor Abbott and DSHS announced the guiding principles for Texas' COVID-19 vaccine allocation process, which will serve as a foundation for the state's initial distribution for COVID-19 vaccines expected as early as next month.

On November 19, 2020, Governor Abbott traveled to Lubbock to hold a briefing with local officials and provide an update on the distribution of bamlanivimab, the Eli Lilly & Company monoclonal antibody therapy for COVID-19.

On November 18, 2020, Governor Abbott announced a \$420 million reimbursement program to cover costs incurred by Texas public schools that purchased Wi-Fi hotspots and/or eLearning devices so students could learn remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On November 11, 2020, Governor Abbott deployed additional resources to El Paso and Lubbock to help combat COVID-19 in these communities.

On November 10, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that the State of Texas has prepared allocation plans to swiftly distribute medicines and vaccines that are now becoming available to treat COVID-19.

On November 6, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that the DoD has deployed three U.S. Air Force Medical Specialty Teams to assist the state's efforts to combat COVID-19 in El Paso. Governor Abbott also renewed the statewide disaster declaration for COVID-19.

On November 5, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC will provide approximately \$202 million in emergency SNAP food benefits for the month of November as the state continues its response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On October 26, 2020, as part of the Trump Administration's comprehensive national effort to fight the COVID-19 pandemic and to assist the nation's Governors in doing so, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is sending 8,730,000 state-of-the-art Abbott BinaxNOW COVID-19 point of care antigen tests to the State of Texas.

On October 25, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM is establishing an ACS in El Paso to expand hospital capacity in the region.

On October 24, 2020, Governor Abbott held a call with Dr. Robert Kadlec, the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) at the U.S. HHS, to discuss hospital capacity needs in the City of El Paso.

On October 22, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that DSHS and TDEM are surging additional medical personnel and equipment to the El Paso region to assist with the community's COVID-19 response.

On October 16, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that DSHS and TDEM have surged medical personnel, medical supplies, and PPE to the Panhandle and South Plains areas to support hospitals in their COVID-19 response.

On October 15, 2020, TDEM updated the criteria for a county exemption from the Texas Executive Order GA-29 face-covering requirement. The county must have 30 or fewer new COVID-19 cases during the previous 14-day period.

On October 14, 2020, Governor Abbott, TEA, and TDEM announced the creation of a COVID-19 Rapid Testing Pilot Program for Texas school systems.

On October 12, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that DSHS and TDEM have surged medical personnel and PPE to El Paso to help combat COVID-19 and support hospitals in the region.

On October 9, 2020, Governor Abbott announced the HHSC will receive more than \$20 million in additional federal funding for disaster crisis counseling services for Texans impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

On October 8, 2020, Governor Abbott amended the paragraph of Executive Order GA-31 that defines areas with high hospitalizations.

On October 7, 2020, Governor Abbott issued an Executive Order to open bars and similar establishments at up to 50% capacity in conjunction with county officials. The Governor's Executive Order also increases the occupancy levels for all business establishments other than bars to 75%. Governor Abbott renewed the State Disaster Declaration for COVID-19.

On October 2, 2020, Governor Abbott and HHSC announced \$3.5 million in federal funding for nursing facilities to purchase plexiglass barriers and tents to allow for safe visitation during the COVID- 19 pandemic.

On September 30, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that the U.S. HHS is partnering with the State of Texas and local officials to offer temporary COVID-19 surge testing in McLennan County. Governor Abbott announced that HHSC will provide approximately \$196 million in emergency SNAP food benefits for the month of October as the state continues to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On September 25, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that Texas' major health insurers have agreed to continue reimbursing network health care providers for telehealth appointments at the same rate which they pay for office visits through the end of 2020. Also, Governor Abbott announced the allocation of over \$171 million in funding from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act which will primarily be used for targeted rental assistance for Texans at risk of becoming homeless due to eviction.

On September 17, 2020, Governor Abbot issued Executive Orders expanding occupancy levels at 75% for restaurants, retail stores, office buildings, manufacturing facilities, gyms and exercise facilities and classes, museums, and libraries, and re-authorizing elective surgeries for most of the state of Texas beginning September 21. Three of the 22 TSAs (S-Victoria, T-Laredo, and V-Lower Rio Grande Valley) must remain at 50% occupancy and continue postponing elective surgeries until the hospitalization metric requirements are met.

On September 7, 2020, Governor Abbott issued a proclamation extending his Disaster Declaration for all Texas counties in response to COVID-19.

On August 31, 2020, Governor Abbott announced the Texas HHSC will provide approximately \$188 million in emergency SNAP food benefits for the month of September as Texas continues to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On August 21, 2020, Governor Abbott issued a statement after the federal government approved nearly \$1.4 billion in initial funds made available through President Trump's Lost Wage Assistance Executive Order.

On August 20, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that TEA, in partnership with Local Education Agencies, has procured more than 1 million personal devices and internet WiFi hotspots as part of the State's Operation Connectivity Initiative.

On August 13, 2020, Governor Abbott traveled to El Paso to meet with state representatives and local leaders to discuss the community's response to COVID-19.

On August 12, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that the U.S. HHS has extended

operations for four temporary COVID-19 surge testing sites in Harris County.

On August 11, 2020, Governor Abbott traveled to Beaumont and Victoria to hold a briefing with local officials and state representatives on the ongoing COVID-19 response in Jefferson County.

On August 8, 2020, Governor Abbott extended his Disaster Declaration for all Texas counties in response to COVID-19.

On August 7, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that the U.S. HHS has established four temporary COVID-19 surge testing sites. For hours of operation and registration details, visit [doineedacovid19test.com](https://doineedacovid19test.com).

On August 6, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that the Houston Astros and TDEM have teamed up to open a free COVID-19 testing site at Minute Maid Park in Houston. The testing site will be able to process 2,000 tests per day and began operations on Saturday, August 8. Testing will run from 8:00 AM through 4:00 PM seven days per week.

On August 4, 2020, Governor Abbott visited the McAllen Convention Center for the opening of the temporary health care facility which will help increase the Rio Grande Valley's hospital capacity during the COVID-19 pandemic. Governor Abbott also announced that President Trump has extended federal funding for the Texas National Guard's mission to help combat COVID-19 in communities across the state.

On July 31, 2020, Governor Abbott held virtual meetings with Mayors, County Judges, Emergency Managers, Hospital Executives, State Legislators, and other local officials from the cities of Laredo and Eagle Pass to discuss ongoing efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19.

On July 24, 2020, Governor Abbott and TMD announced Joint Task Force Texas, a newly formed partnership between the Texas National Guard and Active Duty and Reservists to strengthen COVID-19 response efforts in Texas.

On July 23, 2020, The Office of The Governor and Guadalupe Zamora, MD, of Zamora Medical Center released a new English-Spanish language public service announcement (PSA) urging communities to work together to protect vulnerable Texans from COVID-19.

On July 22, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that the State of Texas will allocate an additional \$118 million in federal funding to support higher education in Texas, including \$93 million to help students continue or restart their progress toward earning a post-secondary credential or degree.

On July 21, 2020, Governor Abbott held virtual meetings with mayors, county judges, emergency managers, hospital executives, state legislators, and other local officials from Cameron and Hidalgo Counties to discuss the unified efforts to combat COVID-19 in these communities.

On July 19, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that the U.S. Department of Defense has sent five U.S. Navy teams to four locations in South and Southwest Texas to help combat

the spread of COVID-19.

On July 17, 2020, Governor Abbott, Lieutenant Governor Patrick, House Speaker Bonnen, Senate Finance Committee Chair Nelson, Vice Chair Hinojosa, and House Appropriations Committee Chair Capriglione and Vice Chair Longoria announced that the State of Texas will allocate \$200 million in CARES Act funding to the TEA for the purchase of eLearning devices and home internet solutions to enable remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic for Texas students that lack connectivity.

On July 15, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that his Public Safety Office (PSO) will provide \$41 million in federal funds to assist cities and counties throughout the COVID-19 response.

On July 13, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that the DoD has activated additional U.S. Army Urban Augmentation Medical Task Forces (UAMTF) to assist the state's efforts to combat COVID-19.

On July 10, 2020, Governor Abbott extended the COVID-19 Disaster Proclamation to further mitigate the spread of the virus.

On July 9, 2020, Governor Abbott issued a Proclamation suspending elective surgeries in hospitals in all counties located within 11 Trauma Service Areas (TSAs) in Texas.

On July 8, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that the State of Texas will invest \$57 million in federal funds to maintain the state's need-based financial aid programs and keep more students enrolled at their colleges and universities.

On July 4, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that DSHS is distributing 448 cases of the antiviral drug Remdesivir to 157 hospitals across Texas.

On July 2, 2020, Governor Abbott issued an Executive Order requiring all Texans to wear a face covering over the nose and mouth in public spaces in counties with 20 or more positive COVID-19 cases, with few exceptions. The Governor also issued a proclamation giving mayors and county judges the ability to impose restrictions on some outdoor gatherings of over ten people, and making it mandatory that, with certain exceptions, people cannot be in groups larger than ten and must maintain six feet of social distancing from others. Governor Abbott and HHSC announced that \$2.67 billion in federal funding has been approved to support Texas hospitals that provide care for people receiving Medicaid.

On June 30, 2020, Governor Abbott and HHSC announced \$9 million in federal funding for nursing facilities to implement infection control. Also, Governor Abbott issued a proclamation suspending elective surgeries at hospitals in Cameron, Hidalgo, Nueces, and Webb counties to help ensure hospital bed availability for COVID-19 patients in these communities.

On June 26, 2020, Governor Abbott issued an executive order limiting certain businesses and services as part of the state's effort to contain the spread of COVID-19. Governor Abbott also announced that the federal government has granted his request to extend



operations of Community Based Testing Sites across Texas.

On June 25, 2020, the HHSC enacted new emergency rules related to health and safety standards for child day care operations. Governor Abbott also issued an Executive Order to ensure hospital bed availability for COVID-19 patients as Texas faces an increase in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations.

On June 24, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM, in partnership with the TMD, will begin distributing 3-ply surgical masks to every Texan who undergoes COVID-19 testing at state-run mobile test collection sites.

On June 23, 2020, As COVID-19 cases rise in Texas, Governor Abbott has expanded the ability of mayors and county judges to impose restrictions on outdoor gatherings of over 100 people.

On June 16, 2020, Governor Abbott and Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs of the University of Texas (UT) System John Zerwas, MD, provided an update on Texas' hospital capacity.

On June 11, 2020, Governor Abbott extended the Disaster Declaration for all counties in the State of Texas amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

On June 9, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that DSHS is distributing additional cases of the antiviral drug Remdesivir to 85 hospitals across 34 counties in Texas.

On June 8, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM is coordinating with local officials, public health officials, and emergency management offices in cities across the state to identify and rapidly expand COVID-19 testing in underserved and minority communities that have been disproportionately impacted by the virus.

On June 3, 2020, Governor Abbott announced the third phase of the State of Texas' plan to safely open the economy while containing the spread of COVID-19. Under Phase III, effective immediately, all businesses in Texas will be able to operate at up to 50% capacity, with limited exceptions.

On May 27, 2020, Governor Abbott and HHSC announced \$3.6 million in funding for nursing facilities to purchase tablets, webcams, and headphones to connect residents with their loved ones during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On May 21, 2020, Governor Abbott directed HHSC to expand COVID-19 testing to all patients, residents, and staff at the 23 state-operated inpatient psychiatric hospitals and living centers throughout Texas.

On May 15, 2020, Governor Abbott and TDEM announced that local fire departments in Texas are partnering with local public health authorities to provide testing in nursing homes throughout the state.

On May 14, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that the Texas National Guard has activated Facilities Disinfection Teams to support Texans in nursing homes and to help

limit the spread of COVID-19.

On May 13, 2020, Governor Abbott waived license renewal late fees that accrued between March 13 and June 15, 2020, for occupational licenses issued by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR).

On May 12, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC has received approval from the USDA to provide more than \$1 billion in food benefits through the federal P-EBT program to families with children who have temporarily lost access to free or discounted school meals due to COVID-19-related school closures.

On May 11, 2020, Governor Abbott directed HHSC, TDEM, and DSHS to test 100% of residents and staff in Texas nursing homes.

On May 8, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that TDEM has applied for FEMA Category B (Emergency Protective Measures) assistance funding to provide financial support to Texas' network of food banks.

On May 6, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC has received \$5.8 million in federal funding to provide crisis counseling services to Texans who have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

On April 30, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that TWC has issued new guidance to unemployment claimants concerning their eligibility for unemployment benefits should they choose not to return to work at this time due to COVID-19.

On April 27, 2020, Governor Abbott announced the first phase of the State of Texas' ongoing plan to safely and strategically open Texas while minimizing the spread of COVID-19.

On April 23, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that Texas A&M Service will provide a series of free online trainings to help local officials understand, acquire, and administer federal assistance available to the state of Texas and municipalities through the Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act and recently passed CARES Act. Governor Abbott also announced that HHSC will receive nearly \$54 million in federal funds to support older Texans and people with disabilities during COVID-19 response.

On April 22, 2020, Governor Abbott temporarily waived certain restrictions to allow Texas higher education institutions to transfer all unexpended student financial aid funds from the Texas College Work-Study (TCWS) program to other financial aid programs that do not have a work-study requirement to ensure students will continue receiving financial assistance.

On April 20, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that the Texas National Guard will be mobilizing more than 1,200 personnel as part of COVID-19 mobile testing teams (MTT). With reports of elevated scams and fraudulent activity preying on the public and consumers disguised as COVID-19 relief and assistance, local, state, and federal response includes guidance, investigation, and prosecution.

- Federal Trade Commission: <https://www.ftc.gov/coronavirus>
- Federal Bureau of Investigation: <https://www.fbi.gov/coronavirus>
- Texas Attorney General: <https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov>
- US Attorney's Office: <https://www.justice.gov/usao-ndtx/report-covid-19-fraud>
- Federal Communications Commission: <https://www.fcc.gov/covid-scams>

On April 9, 2020, Governor Abbott announced that HHSC has adopted an emergency rule to temporarily allow more nurse aides to serve residents in long-term care facilities during the COVID-19 response.

On April 8, 2020, Governor Abbott suspended certain statutes concerning appearance before a notary public to execute a self-proved will, a durable power of attorney, a medical power of attorney, a directive to physician, or an oath of an executor, administrator, or guardian. Governor Abbott also announced that his PSO will provide a one-time emergency waiver of the federally required cash or in-kind match contribution required for the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and Stop Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant funds. Also, Governor Abbott announced that Texas HHSC will provide more than \$168 million in emergency SNAP food benefits to help Texans during the COVID-19 response.

On April 6, 2020, HHSC, Texas WIC, the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children, is expanding the number of food items eligible for purchase through the program.

On April 5, 2020, Governor Abbott temporarily waived certain regulations to expand the health care workforce to assist with Texas' COVID-19 response.

On April 3, 2020, Governor Abbott held a press conference to provide an update on Texas hospital capacity. Texas has increased by over 140% since March 18.

On April 1, 2020, Governor Abbott and TDHCA took initial action to provide tenant-based rental assistance for Texans experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19.

On March 31, 2020, Governor Abbott announced the CFCP program to provide meals for at-risk youth and families in communities across Texas as the state responds to COVID-19.

On March 28, 2020, Governor Abbott waived certain regulations allowing for an expedited licensing reactivation process for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) in Texas. The Governor also waived certain licensing renewal regulations for Texas pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and pharmacy technician trainees.

On March 27, 2020, Governor Abbott announced the deployment of three National Guard Joint Task Force Brigades. The 72nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, the 56th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, and the 176th Engineer Brigade.

On March 25, 2020, Governor Abbott released a statement thanking President Trump for issuing a Major Disaster Declaration (DR-4485) for the State of Texas.

On March 23, 2020, Governor Abbott sent a letter to President Trump requesting a presidential declaration of a major disaster in Texas based on the continued impact of COVID-19. Chief Nim Kidd has been designated the Governor's Authorized Representative and State Coordinating Officer, tasked with continuing his coordination with FEMA on all matters related to COVID-19.

On March 20, 2020, the FDA warned consumers about unauthorized fraudulent coronavirus tests. Governor Abbott also announced that the U.S. SBA has included the entire state of Texas in its Economic Injury Disaster Declaration and granted access to its Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program.

On March 19, 2020, the Commissioner of the DSHS, Dr. John Hellerstedt, issued a Public Health Disaster Declaration in Texas. Governor Abbott issued a proclamation suspending provisions of the Texas Election Code to allow political subdivisions to postpone their 2020 local elections. Governor Abbott and TEA announced a collaboration with Local Education Agencies (LEA) on the Texas Students Meal FinderMap which will allow Texas parents to locate LEA facilities serving meals in their communities.

On March 17, 2020, Governor Abbott waived certain regulations and directed that the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) issue an emergency rule, relating to telemedicine care for patients with state-regulated insurance plans.

On March 14, 2020, Governor Abbott, directed the Texas Medical Board (TMB) and the Texas Board of Nursing (TBN) to fast-track the temporary licensing of out-of-state physicians, physician assistants, certain retired physicians, nurses, and other license types to assist in Texas' response to COVID-19.

On March 13, 2020, the President of the United States Donald Trump declared that the COVID-19 global pandemic is a national emergency. On the same day, Governor Abbott issued a proclamation certifying that COVID-19 poses an imminent threat in the state and declared a state of disaster for all 254 counties in Texas. The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) Commissioner Sid Miller announced TDA has been granted flexibility from the federal school meal program to allow Texas schools to continue to provide meals to students even if temporarily closed.

#### **Texas COVID-19 Cases: [October 17, 2021](#)**

<b>County of Residence</b>	<b>Cases</b>	<b>County of Residence</b>	<b>Cases</b>	<b>County of Residence</b>	<b>Cases</b>	<b>County of Residence</b>	<b>Cases</b>
Anderson	5,035	Donley	256	Kaufman	18,898	Real	390
Andrews	2,766	Duval	1,585	Kendall	2,787	Red River	699
Angelina	6,697	Eastland	1,484	Kenedy	32	Reeves	<a href="#">1,481</a>
Aransas	1,992	Ector	12,569	Kent	47	Refugio	<a href="#">914</a>
Archer	1,042	Edwards	241	Kerr	3,428	Roberts	79
Armstrong	189	El Paso	<a href="#">147,151</a>	Kimble	284	Robertson	2,359
Atascosa	6,603	Ellis	26,074	King	8	Rockwall	13,463
Austin	<a href="#">2,723</a>	Erath	4,281	Kinney	442	Runnels	968
Bailey	687	Falls	2,288	Kleberg	<a href="#">2,974</a>	Rusk	4,525
Bandera	1,626	Fannin	3,202	Knox	210	Sabine	403

County of Residence	Cases	County of Residence	Cases	County of Residence	Cases	County of Residence	Cases
Bastrop	10,515	Fayette	2,151	La Salle	992	San Augustine	460
Baylor	193	Fisher	411	Lamar	3,439	San Jacinto	1,905
Bee	4,499	Floyd	567	Lamb	2,295	San Patricio	5,207
Bell	33,249	Foard	142	Lampasas	2,955	San Saba	665
Bexar	261,499	Fort Bend	83,801	Lavaca	2,312	Schleicher	181
Blanco	906	Franklin	870	Lee	1,395	Scurry	3,028
Borden	29	Freestone	1,614	Leon	1,821	Shackelford	176
Bosque	1,803	Frio	3,044	Liberty	9,401	Shelby	1,662
Bowie	7,548	Gaines	2,120	Limestone	2,595	Sherman	228
Brazoria	46,794	Galveston	53,598	Lipscomb	339	Smith	20,198
Brazos	32,787	Garza	362	Live Oak	1,287	Somervell	813
Brewster	875	Gillespie	2,286	Llano	1,825	Starr	9,097
Briscoe	136	Glasscock	49	Loving	5	Stephens	661
Brooks	871	Goliad	363	Lubbock	64,867	Sterling	77
Brown	3,248	Gonzales	2,853	Lynn	829	Stonewall	52
Burleson	2,601	Gray	2,545	Madison	2,102	Sutton	315
Burnet	6,179	Grayson	16,000	Marion	669	Swisher	968
Caldwell	7,029	Gregg	8,971	Martin	447	Tarrant	295,207
Calhoun	2,758	Grimes	4,574	Mason	279	Taylor	9,460
Callahan	853	Guadalupe	17,397	Matagorda	5,013	Terrell	71
Cameron	52,918	Hale	7,820	Maverick	12,375	Terry	2,062
Camp	1,252	Hall	421	McCulloch	546	Throckmorton	57
Carson	532	Hamilton	1,168	McLennan	41,741	Titus	3,889
Cass	2,705	Hansford	440	McMullen	91	Tom Green	5,965
Castro	942	Hardeman	385	Medina	4,764	Travis	118,150
Chambers	8,719	Hardin	4,204	Menard	177	Trinity	1,063
Cherokee	2,491	Harris	569,476	Midland	25,249	Tyler	1,013
Childress	1,489	Harrison	4,340	Milam	2,076	Upshur	2,252
Clay	1,343	Hartley	653	Mills	743	Upton	97
Cochran	354	Haskell	253	Mitchell	897	Uvalde	5,878
Coke	298	Hays	29,194	Montague	2,579	Val Verde	10,521
Coleman	679	Hemphill	624	Montgomery	67,418	Van Zandt	4,615
Collin	103,892	Henderson	6,308	Moore	2,502	Victoria	13,004
Collingsworth	285	Hidalgo	68,237	Morris	1,015	Walker	10,157
Colorado	2,040	Hill	4,561	Motley	67	Waller	5,224
Comal	10,997	Hockley	3,493	Nacogdoches	5,529	Ward	1,259
Comanche	1,637	Hood	5,887	Navarro	4,272	Washington	4,656
Concho	425	Hopkins	3,066	Newton	408	Webb	52,744
Cooke	4,113	Houston	1,337	Nolan	2,439	Wharton	5,330
Coryell	9,846	Howard	3,296	Nueces	41,764	Wheeler	617
Cottle	176	Hudspeth	488	Ochiltree	1,289	Wichita	21,692
Crane	273	Hunt	8,393	Oldham	176	Wilbarger	1,933
Crockett	243	Hutchinson	2,730	Orange	5,381	Willacy	4,177
Crosby	570	Irion	61	Palo Pinto	4,025	Williamson	64,040

County of Residence	Cases	County of Residence	Cases	County of Residence	Cases	County of Residence	Cases
Culberson	356	Jack	775	Panola	1,633	Wilson	5,323
Dallam	986	Jackson	2,354	Parker	18,531	Winkler	901
Dallas	338,528	Jasper	1,517	Parmer	1,029	Wise	9,186
Dawson	2,122	Jeff Davis	159	Pecos	1,782	Wood	3,493
Deaf Smith	2,464	Jefferson	31,439	Polk	2,527	Yoakum	1,181
Delta	346	Jim Hogg	629	Potter	23,053	Young	2,461
Denton	76,345	Jim Wells	5,686	Presidio	667	Zapata	1,671
DeWitt	2,954	Johnson	22,512	Rains	733	Zavala	2,137
Dickens	138	Jones	2,169	Randall	23,251	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3,466,998</b>
Dimmit	3,084	Karnes	3,401	Reagan	233		

DSHS will update the state case count each day by 4:00 PM Central Time.

### OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES

1. Protect life and property.
2. Protect vulnerable populations.
3. Support rapid & effective response.
4. Accurately track incident costs associated with assigned resources for cost recovery.
5. Expand and maximize bed capacity.
6. Develop alternative care sites to support local governments and the health care systems.
7. Acquire supplies/equipment to support health care and testing.
8. Ensure visibility on progression of the disease.
9. Support local governments.

### RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS:

#### Texas Division of Emergency Management Texas A&M University System (TDEM):

The State of Texas State Operations Center remains at Readiness Level II Escalated Response Conditions, with Daily Operations staff processing disaster declarations, letters to the Governor, Disaster Summary Outlines, State of Texas Assistance Requests (STARs), as well as severe weather messages, and preparing Snapshots and the state SITREP. The State Management Team (SMT) continues conducting operations in the State Operations Center, working together with activated members of the State's Emergency Management Council. TDEM District Coordinators are working closely with their local emergency management partners and various members of the public health community to assist with unmet needs and resources.

TDEM is transitioning state-provided COVID-19 testing to a more traditional commercially available process. However, private commercial vendors used to expand the statewide response for COVID-19 testing in Texas are still available for individual contract work.

As TDEM transitions out of site operations and monitoring state contracts, local entities can work directly with these known testing partners, and some vendors will accept insurance. However, any agreements or contracts are the responsibility of the local agency and outside of the state contract.



COVID testing is still reimbursable through the FEMA Public Assistance program through eligible applicants. This reimbursement is still available at 100 percent (no local cost share) through September 30. Please ensure to follow the procurement procedures that meet FEMA requirements.

**Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife):** Pony Express Team members made the following deliveries/retrievals on [October 15, 2021](#):

- 33 bundles or pallets prepared at Armories.
- 2 PPE deliveries to schools, county/governmental facilities, Fire Dept.
- 4,744 Binax/Care Start tests delivered to 7 Nursing Homes.
- 320 Binax/Care Start tests delivered to 2 County or Government Facilities.

**Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX):** TEEX continues to coordinate operations from the SOC and the 8 IST Resource Staging Areas (RSA) throughout Texas in 9 distribution locations. TEEX currently has [14](#) personnel deployed to support ongoing response activities throughout the state to support the COVID-19 response.

**Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS):** TAMFS currently has 12 personnel assigned to support the ongoing COVID-19 Response activities. Resources are providing operational, planning, and logistical support to TDEM at the San Antonio Warehouse, the State Operations Center, and the Remote State Operations Center.

**Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ):**

- [768 tests conducted October 15; October 16 at 2 facilities in 2 counties](#)
- Staff Vaccinations Administered: over 27,000 doses
- Inmate Vaccinations Administered: over 156,000 doses
- [4 new positives test results](#)

**Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC):** The TAHC supports assessing Texas animals for COVID-19 testing and tracks testing results: to date, 80 animals in Texas (37 Canines, 34 Felines, 6 Tigers, 1 Cougar & 2 Lions) have tested positive for the SARS-CoV-2 virus. TAHC has conducted 60 Animal Assessments to date.

**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ):** TCEQ has created a link specific for COVID-19 on our public webpage.

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/covid-19/tceq-preparedness-responsibilities-covid-19>

**Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR):** TDLR continues to update their website's COVID-19 page (<https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/covid19.htm>) with the latest developments affecting our licensees and the public, including the impacts on the industries they regulate, such as barbershops, salons, and massage establishments.

**Texas Department of Public Safety (TXDPS):** The TXDPS Aviation Operations Division (AOD) is currently providing transportation of vaccines to health providers and TMD vaccination sites working in coordination with TDEM, TEEX and AgriLife.

**Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS):** DSHS Call Center Activities: The Call Center has received [54,273](#) calls and [48,144](#) emails to date.

**Texas Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF):** EMTF continues to support COVID-19 response with [26](#) personnel supporting EMTF Regions 1, 2, 6, 8, 9, 11 and the State Operations Center.

**Texas Education Agency (TEA):** To view TEA support and guidance for school districts regarding COVID-19 please visit <https://tea.texas.gov/texas-schools/health-safety-discipline/covid/coronavirus-covid-19-support-and-guidance>.

**Texas Military Department (TMD):** TMD currently has [1,478](#) personnel deployed in support of the COVID-19 Response. TMD General Support Units are deployed in Dallas, Lubbock, El Paso, Austin, Houston, McAllen, Midland and TDEM Warehouses in San Antonio and Lufkin to implement the TDEM PPE distribution plan for RSAs. TMD is manning a call center and battalion HQ to support TDEM. TMD has deployed testing teams to the State Capitol, Camp Mabry, and Austin. TMD has deployed TMD Healthcare Vaccine Support personnel to support TDEM and currently has Vaccination Teams in DFW Int'l Airport, [Grand Prairie](#), Fort Worth, [Lubbock \(x3\)](#), Austin [\(x13\)](#), San Antonio (x2), Lackland AFB, [Port Arthur](#), Houston [\(x2\)](#), [Baytown](#) and Corpus Christi (x3). JTF Texas has administered [1,665,645](#) vaccines.

**Texas Public Utilities Commission (PUC):** PUC has created a COVID-19 specific public webpage. <http://www.puc.texas.gov/covid-19/>

**Texas Workforce Commission (TWC):** Unemployment Insurance:

- Call centers are open 7 days a week 7:00 AM-7:00 PM.
- TWC Website, Information for COVID-19 [Frequently Asked Questions](#).
- Expanded the number of people doing pin and password resets.

#### STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
AgriLife, TAMUS	Specialists/Admin	22		Activated	College Station
AgriLife, TAMUS	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	SOC/Austin
AgriLife, TAMUS	DAR Extension Agents	18	18	Assigned	Statewide
AgriLife, TAMUS	Incident Support Teams	16	16	Assigned	Regional Advisory Council Areas
TEEX, TAMUS	Incident Support Team (IST) Reg 7	1		Assigned	Austin
TEEX, TAMUS	IST Reg 7	<a href="#">2</a>		Assigned	Austin/Capitol

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TEEX, TAMUS	IST Reg 3	1		Assigned	McAllen
TEEX, TAMUS	IST Reg 8	2		Assigned	Dallas
TEEX, TAMUS	IST Reg 2	2		Assigned	El Paso/ Midland
TEEX, TAMUS	IST Reg 4	2		Assigned	San Antonio
TEEX, TAMUS	IST Reg 1	2		Assigned	Lubbock
TEEX, TAMUS	IST Reg 5	1		Assigned	Houston
TEEX, TAMUS	SOC Liaisons	1		Assigned	Remote SOC Austin
TAMFS	ESB/ESF 4 Representative	1		Assigned	SOC/Austin
TAMFS	Logistical Support	7		Assigned	San Antonio Warehouse
TAMFS	Logistical Support	4		Assigned	Remote SOC Austin
DPS-THP	Troopers and Patrol Vehicles			Assigned	Statewide
DPS-AOD	Aviation			Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	Deployed Medical Staff	8		Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	EMTF State Coordinating Officer (SCO)	8		Assigned	SOC
DSHS	Case Investigators	1		Assigned	PHR 6/5S Hardin Co.
DSHS	Infection Control Practitioner	5		Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	Epidemiologists	12		Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	Data Entry Spec	10		Assigned	Statewide
DSHS	Fatality Management Trailer (FMT) – HPP (trailers)		16	Assigned	HPPs
HHSC	SOC Liaison	4		Assigned	SOC/Austin
PUC	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	Remote
TAHC	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	Virtual
TDA	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	Remote

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
TDLR	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	Remote
TEA	SOC Liaison	2		Assigned	Remote
TMD	BDE JRF Mission Command	94		Assigned	Austin
TMD	BN Mission Command – TF Support	19		Assigned	Austin
TMD	Testing Strike Team	7		Assigned	Austin
TMD	Contact Tracing	3		Assigned	Austin
TMD	RSA-HQ	5		Assigned	San Antonio
TMD	RSA-ABIA	12		Assigned	Austin-Bergstrom Int'l Airport
TMD	RSA-Redbird	12		Assigned	Dallas (Redbird)
TMD	RSA-El Paso	8		Assigned	El Paso
TMD	RSA-Lubbock	5		Assigned	Lubbock
TMD	RSA-Lufkin TDEM	11		Assigned	Lufkin
TMD	RSA-Midland	5		Assigned	Midland
TMD	RSA-SA TDEM SSA	13		Assigned	San Antonio
TMD	RSA-McAllen	5		Assigned	McAllen
TMD	RSA-Westheimer	9		Assigned	Westheimer
TMD	RAC Austin	2		Assigned	Austin
TMD	RAC Corpus	4		Assigned	Corpus Christi
TMD	RAC Laredo	2		Assigned	Laredo
TMD	RAC Pharr	2		Assigned	Pharr
TMD	TF COVAX HQ (BNMC)	50		Assigned	Austin
TMD	COVAX Support CO HQ	2		Assigned	Austin
TMD	MOBILE VAC TEAM (TF Central)	327		Assigned	Various
TMD	MOBILE VAC TEAM (TF South)	326		Assigned	Various
TMD	MOBILE VAC TEAM (TF North)	287		Assigned	Various
TMD	Capitol Testing Team	56		Assigned	Austin
TMD	TDEM Call Center	54		Assigned	Austin
TMD	Adaptive Battle Staff -JFHQ	137		Assigned	Austin
TMD	SOC Support Team	21		Assigned	Austin-SOC

**FINAL COMMENTS:** The State Operations Center (SOC) remains at Level II (Escalated Response Conditions). The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) continues to monitor the situation and will provide additional situation reports as needed.

The four levels of SOC activation are:

Level I (Emergency Conditions)  
Level II (Escalated Response Conditions)  
Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)  
Level IV (Normal Conditions)

*This Situation Report can also be found on the TDEM webpage at:*  
<https://tdem.texas.gov/situation-reports/>.

**W. Nim Kidd, MPA, CEM**

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